

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicant respectfully requests that the pending claims be amended as indicated in the accompanying amended page(s), in which:

- Claim 6 is amended to better define the invention

Applicant submits that no new matter has been added by these amendments.

- Remarks -

35 USC §103(a)

Independent claim 6 is amended to better distinguish the claimed invention over that of Soscia (US 6,636,332) and the Nyquist-Shannon sampling theorem.

As amended, claim 6 additionally recites a top substrate in which the illuminating means is encased, the top substrate being transparent to infra red light and having a semi circular cross section in a portion thereof, the top substrate further having a elongated recess in another portion thereof, the elongated recess adapted to receive therein the sensing means. Claim 6 as amended further recites an array of microlenses disposed on the top substrate, the array of microlenses being arranged on the top substrate to focus the radiation reflected from the photograph onto the sensing means.

It is respectfully submitted that claim 6 as now amended, and the claims dependent therefrom are novel and inventive over Soscia and the Nyquist-Shannon smapling theorem, and now in condition for allowance.

Favorable reconsideration of the application in light of the above amendments and remarks is respectfully requested. Applicant looks forward to word of further official communication in due course.

Very respectfully,

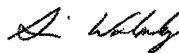
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